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HONGKONG, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1913.

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FIRES IN JAPAN.

Provident and Insurance Companies.

It has been said by those who are com-
petent to judge that, comparatively speak-
ing, Japan enjoys cheaper fire insurance
than any other country. Mr. E. P.
Crowe, Commercial Attaché to the British
Embassy at Tokyo, in his annual report,
prints out that there is a constant com-
petition going on between the foreign and
Japanese companies for the large indus-
trial risks, with the result that rates have
been quoted as low as 10 sen per 100
yen, or 24 per cent, while 121 sen net
has been done for a sprinklered cotton
mill.

In a country where the majority of
houses are built of wood and paper, where
earthquakes often occur, where the water
supply in the large towns and the fire-
fighting appliances are singularly de-
ficient, and where the premiums are par-
ticularly low, states Mr. Crowe, one would
expect the profits of fire insurance com-
panies to be low and far between. Yet a
merciful Providence seems to watch over
the large factories in which the big
amounts are written, because fortunately
there has been no very serious fire since
the one in Osaka of 1909, and even then
the section where all the big mills are
was not affected. Of small fires there are
plenty, but in a large number of cases
the houses are uninsured.

The new regulations also call for several
changes in the conduct of fire insurance
business. The language of the policy
question has already been noted. The
deposit for fire (as well as marine) in-
surance companies used to be 100,000
yen. Under the new regulations the
minimum deposit remains the same, but
if the premium income exceeds 200,000
yen half of the excess income has also to
be deposited.

There are 18 Japanese fire insurance
companies, who in 1911 received pre-
miums amounting to 2,896,000, and paid
claims totalling 2,239,000, their business
expenses being 220,000. There are 23
foreign insurance companies doing busi-
ness in Japan, most of which are British.

JUDGE AND A LADY LITIGANT.

Mr. Justice Darling had a surprising
interview in his court recently with a lady
litigant who last week lost an action for
slander. The lady introduced herself as
Miss Hunt, and began: "That farce of a
trial a fortnight ago, where there was only
one true thing said—"

Mr. Justice Darling interrupted: Who
tried the case?

Miss Hunt: You did—if you call it tried
(loud laughter). She went on to say that
she had had no time, owing to the short
notice afforded, to call an important
witness from the country.

"It is a matter of life or death," ex-
claimed the lady. "You may smile, but
I shall take my life if you don't do
what I ask."

You must not threaten me that, be-
cause, I don't do what you want, you will
take your life," said the Judge.

"I have been the victim of a plot which
you would only think would be hatched in
the Middle Ages," said the lady.

"I have no power to give a different
judgment," said his lordship. "You must
go to the Court of Appeal. It is not that
I am perverse and won't—I have no power
to do it." Miss Hunt left the court re-
sponding, "It is life or death to me, sir, it
is no hug to you."

Some philosophy from the "Tall-
can."

The people who do exactly as they please
are not always the most pleasing.
It is just as well to bear in mind that if
it wasn't for the rain there wouldn't be any
hay to make when the sun shines.

Every woman likes to have a few friends,
but can't afford to dress as well as she can.

One likes to play cards with a few friends
and sit at a table with a good wine.

It is quite possible for a man to have
more friends than he can count.

Don't despair. Even the hotels get it
in the neck when it runs up against the
competition.

Most of us are quite willing to forgive
enemies of other people.

The best thing to do at cards is to
make a friendly.

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ART PHOTOGRAPHER.

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THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

In "Mikao," in the latest issue of the monthly "Japan and the Japanese," makes the following observations on the Anglo-Japanese Alliance as seen from the British side:

Japan is no longer the Japan she was, prior to the Russo-Japanese War. All the sympathy that she used to receive from the world is gone, and it is replaced by an anti-Japanese sentiment, as it expressed in ever so various forms. She is excluded by America and the British colonies. Russia has practically recovered her old power since the conclusion of peace after the war, and is now hurrying on with the consummation of her military equipment, in which Japan can hardly hope to compete with success. Germany is doing all in her power, as it seems, to foment anti-Japanese feelings in China. There are no sympathetic friends around Japan, or if there are, they are only such weak States as Turkey or Mexico. The fact is that Japan is welcomed by the weak but is not strong enough to fight with the strong for the sake of the weak. But if there are any who view the condition of this Empire in a pessimistic spirit, because of the above facts, they must be regarded as refusing to see the other side of the medal. The evil conditions are of a temporary nature, arising from diplomatic failures which may be rectified. They are the reactionary results of the intoxication of victory, just like headache after too much drinking.

To what a decided extent Russia suffered from the late war is eloquently attested by the fact that she remained an onlooker at the annexation of two States (Bosnia and Herzegovina) by Austria. Russia, however, can never for a moment be slighted, and that account. She is preparing in 1913 to take forward action in the Far East, as is clear from her indefatigable efforts for the consummation of the military equipment in her Far Eastern dominions. The activity of Russia in this direction is so remarkable that some people are naturally led to believe that she is preparing to revenge herself on Japan for the diplomatic defeat in the late war. It may be the Russians desire to revenge, but they are not such fools as to blindly enter upon hostile operations without seeing some prospect of recovering the losses that they may suffer in their so-called war of vengeance. Russia may be able to drive Japan out of Manchuria, but that would cost her as dear as the previous hostilities. When things are viewed in this light the question is—Does Russia see any necessity of driving Japan out of Manchuria at such huge labour and expense? How is it then that she should be devoting such undivided efforts for the consummation of the military equipment in Siberia? It may be she is preparing to fight a war of vengeance with Japan, but there is more reason to believe that the preparations are intended against other Powers, including Britain. With her military equipment being steadily perfected Russia must be regarded as being ready to find an outlet wherever resistance is weakest. Thus she may turn to North China and even India. India has reformed her military system, but her force is only 300,000, that is, 76,000 British soldiers, 100,000 native soldiers and some 120,000 volunteers and gendarmes. With three hundred millions of people it may not be difficult for England to mobilize a million troops for controlling the Indians. But their aspirations for independence are by no means slighted. Feelings of unrest being often reported. Owing to the lack of union among the Indians mainly due to the difference of religion, they find it very hard to extricate themselves from Britain's rule. Should Russia, however, lend them arms or war funds, serious consequences might result.

The subjugation of South Africa required the mobilization of four hundred thousand troops. This was the maximum force Britain could mobilize. Knowing that she could mobilize no more troops in any case, she concluded the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. The British at once at first appreciated the Alliance but appear to have come to regret it subsequently, just as no healthy man thinks of appreciating the merit of health. Some of them even slight the Alliance. They should, however, pause and consider how Britain is to maintain Australia without retaining India under perfect control. If Russia sees that India can never be conquered unless at great sacrifice, she will never think of laying her hands on the land. India is an administrative sphinx; to develop the intellectual faculties of the people means to encourage independence; otherwise the people must remain for ever in an uncivilized condition. While there is no necessity for any sign of the promulgation of a Constitution for India, the fact remains that in the event of its enactment the Indians would not fail to make an attempt at independence. It is true Britain is powerful enough to keep the colony under her control forever, but she will find it maintenance no easy task once Russia comes to the assistance of the natives in sympathy with their aspirations. As is generally recognized Britain is no match for Russia in point of military force, although she would be able to blockade the Russian ports with her Navy. In the event of Russia concentrating her forces for the strength of, say, seventy-five Divisions, in the South, it would be as easy for her to break into India as to break the rotten twig of a tree. Japan is the only country in the Far East which is strong enough to keep Russia activity in that direction in proper check. So long as the Anglo-Japanese Alliance remains, so long will Russia

not think of turning southwards from Asia Minor. It is to be greatly regretted that some of the English people however, have entirely forgotten what difficulty Britain experienced in subjugating South Africa, and even go the length of treating Japan as if she were a useless ally. True Japan has obtained no small benefit from the Alliance, to which, for instance, her victory over Russia in the late war must be attributed in a great measure. Britain, however, has also received by no means less obvious benefits from the Alliance. Even if Japan should throw aside the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, she could find some other means of recovering the loss that she would suffer in consequence, but where can Britain obtain the required military force to also lose the present alliance? Britain must expect to find a necessity for activity in the Orient and in her Overseas Dominions. Necessity decides all, and she will some day realize the imperative necessity of maintaining the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. If, therefore, she now be indifferent, Japan can wait till she comes to know better. Only it must be hoped that Britain will be as early as possible, because the earlier she recognizes the necessity of maintaining the Alliance, the more benefit it will prove to both Britain and Japan.

THE NEW SILK CROP.

It is thought likely, writes a correspondent in the "Manchester Guardian," that there will this year be a substantial increase in raw silk exports from Japan, and possibly also from Asia Minor. If so the decrease in the Italian and French crops, which is estimated to total about 11 million kilos, may be counterbalanced. The falling off in the Italian production, which last year amounted to round 4.1 million kilos, is conservatively estimated at between 20 and 25 per cent., whilst this year's French crop will scarcely come to 70 per cent. of that of last year, when it amounted to 500,000 kilos. A meeting of the Milan Silk Association it was stated that the total quantity of cocoons available for the Italian silures this year would be about 17 million kilos, made up of old crop stocks 500,000 kilos, new crop Italian cocoons 12.5 million kilos, and imports 4 million kilos. This gives 284 kilos, to each of the 60,000 basins, against 372 kilos, last year and 335 kilos the year before that. In view of this, it was unanimously decided to begin immediately organized short time at the silures.

Of the other European producers Austria-Hungary and Spain will have about the same as last year, 300,000 kilos, and 80,000 kilos, respectively. With this exception of the Adriatic and Salento districts (last year's production 200,000 kilos), which have suffered seriously from the war, exports from the Levant and Central Asia are satisfactory. The Balkan States will produce about the same as last year, 200,000 kilos, and Anatolia (last year 450,000 kilos), and Syria (last year 500,000 kilos), will have an increase output, whilst the Caucasus, Turkistan, and Persia will account for about 900,000 kilos, as before. Exports for Shanghai are several thousand bales higher than last year, when it was 110,000 bales, and Canton will also probably show an increase against last year's 47,000 bales. The first three Canton crops amount to between 24,000 and 26,000 bales, against 10,000 to 18,000 bales last year. It remains to be seen what effect the latest Chinese disturbances have on the home silk consumption and on the course of silver prices. Japan continues to sell freely, being apparently anxious to dispose of the crop as quickly as possible, and it is possible to buy Japanese silk about 10 per cent. cheaper than the yellow Italian or white Turkistan product. It is expected that the total crop will be a very large one, and that exports will be much above those of last year, which were 178,000 bales.

MILITARY SERVICE IN SIAM.

Since the announcement of the amendment to the Military Service Law, a good deal of speculation has arisen as to the number of people affected, states the "Bangkok Times." We have heard various estimates from twenty thousand men downwards. This latter figure is as it proves a wild guess. Men are liable between the age of 19 and 27, and in well informed circles the number is placed at about 8,000, not more. It is rather difficult to give absolutely the number, because many officials now liable have not hitherto applied for certificates of exemption. As far as we can gather the certificate of exemption issued last year numbered about 5,500 and the difference is made up of those who have not applied for their certificates.

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COCOONITS IN SIAM.

GROWTH OF CROP AND EXPORTS INCREASING.

Some twenty years ago or more cotton was one of the commodities regularly exported from this country, to China for the most part, says the Bangkok Times. Then the export dwindled, till it practically ceased altogether. Within the past few years the growing and export have been resumed. There are two districts where cotton is being seriously cultivated at the present time. The largest area is in the neighbourhood of Pichit (Munthou Pichit), and may be said to run from Hua Hong to Uradit. Here the cotton plants are mostly grown on the sloping river banks which in high water season are covered. The rich alluvial soil is covered with cotton as well as other plants, and large tracts of the river banks are cultivated for this reason. The other place where cotton is grown on any scale is on the Korat line at the Xiang and is owned by Phra Sarai of Samen. The bulk of this cotton comes down by rail and the inland tax of ten per cent. is generally paid in Bangkok at the railway station. This year it is anticipated the arrivals by rail will exceed a thousand tons.

Like many other budding industries in this country it is controlled by Chinese. The growers are largely Chinese at any rate in Munthou Pichit, and the produce is handled by Chinese in Bangkok. Some of the firms have handled cotton. The Siam Import Company market the crop from Phra Sarai's estate, which is sent to London. The remainder price is sent to Japan. The export has been steadily growing from 1901, when it was valued at 15,540 in R. S. 126 to 1912 valued at 177,038 in R. S. 130. The Chinese buyers here are more or less speculators. They buy at the best price they can obtain and forward direct to Hongkong, Messrs. A. J. S. and Co. and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha sent to Japan via Singapore. The first named firm, however, are practically only experimenting at present.

PRESENT DIFFICULTIES.

The industry labours under several disadvantages at present. One is the inland tax. This is decidedly heavy and cotton was indiscriminately put when treaty making as far as Siam was concerned was not very well understood part of diplomatic duty. As the output of cotton increases it will become increasingly difficult to persuade the authorities to agree to any remission of taxation, and any relief should come soon. It is suggested that four per cent. in as much as Government would result in a large area being placed under cultivation. A great objection from the exporters point of view is the seeming impossibility of getting any uniformity of the crop available for export.

Most of the cotton comes to Bangkok in an uncleaned state. Recently the Ministry of Agriculture, with the object of benefiting the growers, ordered a ginning plant and press at Pitsanuloke. In every three piculs of uncleaned cotton about two piculs are seeds, and the object the Ministry had in view was by ginning to provide the cultivator with valuable seeds at present largely lost by being sent to Bangkok. Another point is that growers are not able to bale properly and this affects the charges for freight. The difference between freight rates is as much as a shilling a picul in favour of Japan as against Europe markets, and the press erected at Pitsanuloke is intended to bale cotton to the best advantage. Phra Sarai also has a press at Tap Kwang. Cleaned cotton fetched about thirty baht per picul and uncleaned twelve, and the bulk is sent to Bangkok uncleaned. The cleaning of all cotton before being put on rail would save a good deal in freight charges. Japanese millers insist on uniformity throughout each bale and through-out each shipment. One of the handicaps experienced by foreign firms here is the difficulty of guaranteeing this. And the difficulty is not lessened by the practice of some Chinese sellers who have a habit of mixing the bales. The commercial value of Siamese cotton is good. The seeds are several varieties, however.

COMMANDS IN C NATURAL.

GERMAN "NON-COM" NEED OF MEDICAL EAR.

The method of pronouncing orders to the troops in the German army is to be entirely revolutionized. Instead of anyone being fully qualified to utter commands provided he does not suffer from a stammer or other linguistic trouble he will now apparently have to know his scales.

The Kaiser has been considerably exercised in his mind because most times the orders are badly pronounced, distorted, and many of the syllables of the words used remain in the instructor's throat. But, worst of all, each non-commissioned officer has his own way of "pitching" his orders. Some while ago Professor Spies was instructed by the Emperor to reform all instructions by working for several months and labouring over the details of the various notes, natural and flat, the professor has finally found the note on which orders must be issued—C natural. This is probably the first time that the enunciation of orders has been taken up scientifically, and there is a good time ahead for "non-coms" who lack a musical ear.

HOPEFUL FOR HUSBANDS.

A Parisian dressmaker has been advertising a tulle gown which has the advantage that, if worn over pink silk, it gives the impression that the wearer is in a state of perfect simplicity. If such an advertisement is possible, we ought not to dismiss too contemptuously the theory of "W." who, writing to the "Times," declares that the occultation of modern fashions are due to women's effort to recapture the fading interest of man. Man, interested in games and his club, and brought into competition with the other sex in everything of woman, is slightly weary of woman; she resents this, and to regain the happy, far-off days when he turned his head to look at her, she hobbles, pokes, and slouches, and upstarts. It is gratifying to think that she certainly succeeds in her object.

A Celebrated Violiniste



Nervous Fatigue, Languor—

The power to excel, the confidence which ensures her brilliant success, says the talented violinist, Miss Sybil Keymer, is entirely due to her abundance of vigorous nerve force created by Phosferine. How greatly the numerous distinctions and triumphant career of this accomplished musician are promoted by Miss Keymer's admission that the tonic by Phosferine is evident by the brain energy and physical stamina developed by Phosferine. This power to excel, this ability to make perfect use of her skill, depends upon the marvellous control and steadiness of the muscles Phosferine has given her, and to which she owes the entrancing tone and quality of her musical renditions. Naturally, this energizing effect of Phosferine was accompanied by the disappearance of the headaches, listlessness, and fatigue, which were the bane of her public appearances, and it is this happy outcome which impels Miss Keymer to testify to the exceptional advantages to be derived from Phosferine.

Promptly Remedied.

Miss Sybil Keymer, "Riverside," Albany Rd., Leighton Buzzard, Eng., writes: "I think I should inform you that I have recently derived very great benefit from the use of Phosferine. In the course of my profession I have to travel a good deal in getting to my various concerts, and I find that since using Phosferine I am never troubled with the headaches and listlessness which follow a long railway journey, particularly during hot weather. This is of very great importance to me, as frequently only a very little time elapses between reaching my destination and the commencement of a concert, and it is such a relief to feel fresh and ready for playing in public undisturbed by the fatigues of long travelling. It is because I feel that Phosferine enables me to do myself justice as a violinist, preventing any of the unsteadiness of the muscles, which is so harmful to tone and quality, that I confidently commend the tonic at every opportunity."—July 17, 1912.

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Influenza, Indigestion, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Exhaustion, Lethargy, Weakness, Premature Decay, Mental Exhaustion, Loss of Appetite, Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Rheumatism, Headache, Hysteria, Anemia.
And all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.
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fore anything serious could be at-
tacked the men had got away outside
fines of the city and had bolstered
trees so that for the present none of

BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

JAPAN AND CHINA.

JAPANESE JINGOS URGE MOBILISATION.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
At Tokyo a mass meeting was held, in defiance of police prohibition, to protest against the murder of Japanese in Nanking. A resolution was passed urging the Government to mobilise troops.

THE THAW FIASCO.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
Mr. Jerome has slipped quietly across the border into the United States, and has failed to surrender to his bail. Counsel pleaded that he was unavoidably detained, and the case was adjourned.

THE AMERICA CUP.

ANOTHER CANDIDATE FOR THE TROPHY.

New York, Sept. 7.
Mr. Herreshoff is building a seventy-foot all-steel sloop, which will be entered as a candidate to defend the America Cup.

MANCHESTER SORTER KILLED.

CARTRIDGES BY POST.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
A sorter was killed and several injured by the explosion at Manchester of a parcel supposed to contain cartridges for starting races at the Sports.

THE M.C.C. TEAM FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
The English cricketers selected up to the present to represent the M.C.C. in South Africa, who sail on the 18th October, are as follows:—
J. W. H. T. Douglas (Essex), Captain
M. C. Bird (Surrey)
D. C. Robinson (Gloucestershire)
Hon. L. H. Tennyson (Hampshire)
Wobley (Kent)
Mead (Hampshire)
J. W. Hearn (Middlesex)
A. E. Relf (Sussex)
Barnor (Sussex)
This is regarded as a splendid team and gives universal satisfaction.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
The trade returns for August show a decrease in imports of £3,683,753, and an increase in exports of £332,008. The principal decrease in imports are on food, drink, tobacco and raw materials which show a decline of £441,000, while the decline on wool is placed at £429,000.
Cotton exports and new ships have increased by £2,246,596.
The largest decline on exports is £55,000 on cotton goods.

MR. BALFOUR ON HOME RULE.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
Mr. Balfour, in a speech at Haddington, said the Government could appeal to the country before passing Home Rule, or it could appeal after it became law but before it came into operation. A rumour indicated that the Government favoured the second course, but Mr. Balfour said he would not believe until he was forced to, that the Government was capable of such an act of gross political immorality.

HOME RACING.

THE PRINCE EDWARD HANDICAP.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
The result of the Prince Edward Handicap was:—
At Last 1
King Midas 2
Himant 3
The betting was 11 to 8 against At Last; 9 to 12 against King Midas; and 100 to 12 against Himant. There were eight starters. Two lengths separated the first and second horses, while a head separated the second and third.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of the Rev. James Orr, M.A., B.D., D.D. (Glasgow), Professor of Apologetics and Theology at the Theological College of United Free Church, Glasgow, since 1901.
[Note.—Professor Orr was one of the most distinguished of Scottish theologians. He took a leading part in the negotiations for union between the Free and U.P. Churches. He wrote much on theological subjects.—Ed. C.M.]

BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

TURKEY AND BULGARIA.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
A Constantinople telegram states that the first meeting of the Turkish-Bulgarian delegates has been postponed until Monday afternoon, when the date of the real opening business will be decided.

ENGLISH CRICKET.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
The Gentlemen defeated the Players at Scarborough by six runs.

LONDON STRIKERS RESUME WORK.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
Five hundred electricians employed at the Office of Works have decided, by a substantial majority, to resume work on the conditions obtaining prior to the strike.

ITALIAN FEELING AGAINST AUSTRIA.

Rome, Sept. 7.
It transpires that as a result of the dissatisfaction caused in Italy by Ordinances dismissing foreigners from the service of the Municipality at Trieste, which is supposed to be directed against Italians, the proposed visit of the Italian Foreign Minister, Marchese A. Di San Giuliano, to Vienna, has been postponed.
According to the Italian Press, the Ambassador at Vienna frankly told Count Berchtold that the Foreign Minister could not at present fulfil the engagement, which would certainly irritate Italian opinion.

GERMAN ARMY MANOEUVRES.

GREEK ROYAL FAMILY IN BERLIN.

Berlin, Sept. 7.
The King of Greece, accompanied by the Queen and the Crown Prince, have arrived to attend the army manoeuvres.
They were welcomed by the Kaiser and the German Princes, and drove to Potsdam.
The chiefs of staff and general staff of the Austrian and Italian armies will also attend the manoeuvres.

ECHO OF THE JOHANNESBURG RIOTS.

GOVERNMENT ACTION CONDEMNED.

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 7.
A labour meeting held in the market square was attended by several thousand people, and a resolution was carried expressing disgust at the action of the authorities in attempting to suppress the established rights of the people and free speech.
Violent speeches were delivered, in which the Government was called "a dirty, stinking, gigantic sea agency."

REVENGEFUL ESKIMOS.

EXPLORERS KILLED AT SCHULTZ LAKE.

OTTAWA, Sept. 8.
News has been received here that Messrs Radford and Street, American and Canadian explorers respectively, who left Chesterfield, an inlet in Hudson Bay, in 1911, to travel overland to Bathurst, an inlet to the Arctic Ocean, have been murdered by Eskimos at Schultz Lake in the winter of 1912.
It appears that Radford quarrelled with a native and killed him. The native killed Radford with a spear, and Street, running to assist his colleague, was speared in the back.
This is the first instance of the murder of white explorers by Eskimos.

BRITISH ENGINEERING FIRMS TRIUMPH.

VALUABLE OIL CONCESSIONS SECURED IN ECUADOR.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
The Standard says that Lord Murray, formerly the Master of Elibank (Chief Liberal Whip), acting on behalf of Messrs. Pearson, has secured a triumph over American and Dutch rivals by obtaining valuable concessions to work the oil fields in Ecuador in return for building railways, roads, etc. The concession will probably involve an expenditure of £1,000,000 over a period of ten years.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

IMPORTANT FRENCH DECREES.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
President Poincaré has signed a decree creating a Council to advise the Admiralty on technical matters; and also a decree establishing French Courts in Morocco for French citizens and protecting and replacing Consular Courts.

DROWNING DISASTER IN INDIA.

SIMLA, Sept. 7.
A party of 150 were crossing the tributary of the River Beas in the Hoshiarpur district, en route to a fair, when a spate drowned the whole party.

THE RAILWAY DISASTER.

FURTHER DETAILS.

LONDON, Sept. 7.
Mr. George Lindsay, the London stockbroker who was seriously injured in the accident, has succumbed.
There are now 17 dead in the Aisgill disaster.
Sir Arthur Douglas has succumbed.
The driver of the second train gave evidence at the inquiry. He said he went round diling the engine when the critical signals were passed, and thought the distant signal was lit, but was not quite certain. Unfortunately, he did not look a second time as he usually did.
The fireman admitted that he did not tell the driver that he was not watching the signals.
Both men dwelt on the trouble experienced in firing the engine owing to the smallness of the coal.
The Board of Trade Inspector commented both the driver and the fireman on the straightforward manner in which they gave their evidence.

CONFLAGRATION IN ARKANSAS.

2,000 PEOPLE HOMELESS.

Hot Springs, Sept. 7.
A message from Hot Springs, Arkansas, says that a great fire, a mile long and three blocks wide, has swept the eastern section of the city, destroying factories, hotels, residences and public buildings, and rendering 2,000 people homeless.
Dynamite was used to prevent the spread of the fire, but it was useless, as the flames jumped from building to building.
The damage was enormous, and special police were engaged to prevent looting.
Troops arrive to-day to patrol the city.

AMERICA'S TARIFF LAWS.

ANTI-CANADIAN RETALIATORY FEATURES REMOVED.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.
The countervailing duty on wool pulp has been eliminated from the Tariff bill by the Senate Finance Committee, which has presented amendments under which all Anti-Canadian retaliatory features have been removed.

CHINESE POLITICS.

NEW CABINET MINISTERS.

PEKING, Sept. 8.
The following is a list of the names of the new Cabinet Ministers submitted by Cheng Yi Xuan to-day:
Education: Wang Tsh Hsien.
Agriculture and Commerce: Chang Chi En.
Justice: Liang Chi Chao.
Communications: Chow Tzu Chi.
Foreign Affairs: Sun Pao Chi.
Interior: Chu Chi Chien.
The Ministers for the Army and Navy are unchanged. Voting on the nominations takes place on Monday.

THE LOOTING IN NANKING.

PUBLIC OPINION AROUSED.

SINCHANG, Sept. 8.
Following the strict enforcement of martial law in Nanking looting has decreased somewhat but the City is practically deserted. Scores of Chang's soldiers have been arrested by Fung Kwok Chong's troops for lawlessness. Five thousand of Chang's troops have been dispatched to hunt the fleeing rebels on the way to Wufoo.
PEKING, Sept. 8.
Public opinion is incensed against Chang Hsun on account of the lawlessness of his troops at Nanking, and his resignation is demanded on the ground of his inability to control his men.
A Presidential Order requests Fung Kwok Chong to return to Peking.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S FINANCE.

WHAT IT HAS DONE FOR ENGLAND.

LONDON, Sept. 8.
Dr. Macnamara, speaking at Peckham, said that Mr. Lloyd George's finance had enabled England to supply meet the growing cost of national defence, which was the first duty of the Government. It was deplorable to have to spend money in such a way, but they could not by any means any portion of their armour unless other great peoples agreed to do the same. The navy estimates were a tremendous strain on the public purse, but it was far better to spend a million too much than a million too little. The latter might mean a national disaster, and the loss of hundreds of millions.

ALLEGED POSSESSION OF COCAINE AND MORPHINE.

At the Magistrate's this afternoon before Mr. Orme, Mr. George Leopold Dunster, of 4, Dea Vaux Road Central, merchant, appeared on remand charged with being in unlawful possession, on August 23rd, of 519 ounces of cocaine, and 189 lbs. of morphine.

Mr. P. M. Hodgson, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. P. W. Goldring defended.
A formal plea of not guilty was entered.
Mr. Goldring said that before the case proceeded he would like to call the attention of the Court to an article appearing in the "Hongkong Telegraph" of Saturday. It seemed to him and he would ask his Worship to express an opinion on the subject—that it was improper to have been written at this particular time. His client knew nothing about this, but Mr. Orme thought it was in the interests of the general public as to whether an article should be written when two cases dealing with cocaine were coming on. Was a newspaper justified in publishing an article of this kind? He would say that it was absolutely improper, and he felt inclined to suggest that it was almost malicious, coming as it did at that moment. It was a large extent inaccurate; the premises were inaccurate, and the deductions absolutely untrue. As his Worship could do, he hoped he would express his disapproval of the Press publishing articles of this kind when cases were coming on. He had had several people call his attention to it, and if his Worship wanted names, he could mention them.
Mr. Orme: So far as prejudicing my mind—
Mr. Goldring: I have no fear of this, whatever, but the general public is concerned, as it may be a jury case. If your Worship will say whether it is proper—
Mr. Orme: To comment upon cases before the Courts?
Mr. Goldring: This is quite close to it. I have no "axe to grind," but several people have pointed out the effects it has had on them, and I thought I was justified in calling attention to it. I do not ask your Worship to express an opinion today, but you might look it through. I should think it is taken from some American, rather than a Hongkong newspaper.

ALLEGED LOAN DEBT.

A WITNESS'S BROTHERLY FEELING.

The Summary Court action in which the parties are Indians, one of whom, the defendant, instructed two witnesses, came on again for hearing before Mr. Justice Kemp this morning. The parties are Shaver Singh, for whom Mr. G. F. Mason, of Mr. F. X. D'Almeida's office appears, and Israr Singh, an Indian policeman, who was defended by Mr. J. H. Gardiner. The amount of the alleged debt is \$100.
Mr. P. W. Goldring, who was instructed with Mr. Gardiner for the defence, withdrew from the case this morning because he had a heavy case in another court in the afternoon. His withdrawal was not through any dissatisfaction, he said, but was occasioned by sheer inability to attend.
One of the witnesses for the plaintiff was cross-examined this morning as to his relations with the defendant, who came from the same village in India. There had been no trouble between them there relative to a place of land, but his ancestors and defendant's ancestors might have had a dispute. "If this was so to know nothing about it," he added, "and if I was in trouble nobody else would help me."
Mr. Gardiner: And you are helping him in this case?
Subsequently the witness admitted that he was sentenced to a term of eight months' imprisonment in India for coming to Hongkong, but he denied that it was for perjury, saying that it was because he participated in a fight.
Judgment was given for defendant, with costs, after the evidence for both sides had been heard.

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FURTHER REDUCTIONS.

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they were packed with photographic plates. Mr. Hodgson submitted that it be substantiated these facts, his would have made out a strong case. This case was heavy—\$2,000 on each charge—and he would, in the event of a conviction, ask his Worship to inflict the full penalty on each charge, as it was very serious to import cocaine into the Colony in such large quantities.
Mr. Goldring having requested that a plan of the premises should be made, the hearing of evidence was proceeded with. The case was adjourned.

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SHANGHAI	ASSAYE	6 a.m. 13th Sept. Freight and Passage.
LONDON, via Suez, Port of Call	DEVANHA	Noon, 18th Sept. Freight and Passage.
LONDON & ANTWERP, via Suez, Port of Call	NYANZA	About 17th Sept. Freight and Passage.

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MARSHALLS, LONDON AND ANTWERP, via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.	KITANO MARU, Capt. Cope, Tons 18,000.	WEDNESDAY, 10th Sept., at Daylight.
	IYO MARU, Capt. Hirase, Tons 12,500.	WEDNESDAY, 24th Sept., at Daylight.
VICTORIA, B.O., & SEATLE, via KIELUNG, SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SHIMIZU & YOKOHAMA.	AWA MARU, Capt. Shimizu, Tons 12,500.	TUESDAY, 9th Sept., at 4 p.m.
	SADO MARU, Capt. Amakura, Tons 12,500.	TUESDAY, 23rd Sept., at 4 p.m.
	YOKOHAMA MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 12,500.	TUESDAY, 7th Oct., at Noon.
KOBE & YOKOHAMA.	TANGO MARU, Capt. Yoshikawa, Tons 13,600.	THURSDAY, 11th Sept., at 11 a.m.
	KAMO MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 13,600.	THURSDAY, 25th Sept., at 11 a.m.
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, via MANILA, THURSDAY, 11th Sept., at 11 a.m.	YAMAGUCHI MARU, Capt. Minckler, Tons 3,900.	Sept., at Noon.
DAY ISLAND TOWNS, VILLE AND BRISBANE.	INABA MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 12,500.	WEDNESDAY, 24th Sept., at Noon.
MAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.	KAMAKURA MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 12,500.	MONDAY, 16th Sept., at Noon.
BOMBEY, via SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.	CEYLON MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 12,500.	SATURDAY, 20th Sept., at Noon.
COLOMBO, via SINGAPORE, PENANG, & RANGOON.	AKI MARU, Capt. Tani, Tons 12,500.	THURSDAY 9th Oct., at Noon.

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SIBERIA	13,000	SATURDAY, 27th Sept., at 1 p.m.
MANCHURIA	17,000	TUESDAY, 10th Oct., at 1 p.m.
		TUESDAY, 17th Oct., at 1 p.m.

Intermediate Steamer: Passengers taking through tickets have the privilege of travelling by rail between Kobe and Yokohama free of charge.

HONGKONG-MANILA SERVICE.

FROM HONGKONG. Arrive Manila. Leave Manila. Due Hongkong.

Sept. 13, PERSIA, Sept. 13, PERSIA, Sept. 13, PERSIA.

Oct. 13, CHINA, Oct. 13, CHINA, Oct. 13, CHINA.

Oct. 23, SIBERIA, Oct. 23, SIBERIA, Oct. 23, SIBERIA.

King's Building (opposite Blake Pier). R. C. MORTON, Agent.

Panama-Pacific International Exposition—San Francisco—1915.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

IMPERIAL JAPANESE TRANS-PACIFIC MAIL LINES.

SAN FRANCISCO LINE

Operating the THREE TRIPLE SCREW TURBINE Steamers

CHIYO MARU, SHINYO MARU & TENYO MARU.

Speed 21 Knots. Displacement 22,000 Tons.

AND THE TWIN SCREW S.S. NIPPON MARU & HONGKONG MARU INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS.

Speed 18 Knots. Displacement 11,000 Tons.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

Steamer Captain Date of Sailing.

Hongkong Maru...S. Tono...Friday, 19th Sept., at Noon.

SHINYO MARU...H. S. Smith...THURSDAY, 25th SEPT., at Noon.

CHIYO MARU...W. W. Green...FRIDAY, 17th OCT., at Noon.

NIPPON MARU...A. G. Stevens...WEDNESDAY, 8th NOV., at Noon.

TENYO MARU...E. Bent...TUESDAY, 11th NOV., at Noon.

The S.S. HONGKONG MARU will be despatched for San Francisco, via Manila, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama and Honolulu, on FRIDAY, the 19th Sept., at Noon.

SOUTH AMERICA LINE.

In connection with the NATIONAL RAILWAYS OF MEXICO at MANZANILLO and the TEHUANTEPEC NATIONAL RAILWAY at SALINA CRUZ.

The only Regular Direct Service to MEXICAN, CHILIAN and PERUVIAN PORTS.

ANYO MARU, BUYO MARU & KIYO MARU.

Fly between HONGKONG and CORONEL via MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, HILO, MANZANILLO, SALINA CRUZ, CALLAO, ARICA, IQUIQUE & VALPARAISO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

Steamer Tons Date of Sailing.

Buyo Maru...10,500...Saturday, 4th Oct., at Noon.

ANYO MARU...18,000...WEDNESDAY, 3rd DEC., at Noon.

KIYO MARU...17,900...THURSDAY, 5th FEB., at Noon.

ALL STEAMERS are equipped with Japanese Government WIRELESS TELEGRAPH APPARATUS, TELEPHONE and POST OFFICES.

SPECIAL FARES—To OFFICERS of the ARMY and NAVY, members of the CIVIL & CONSULAR SERVICES and to MISSIONARIES.

Through bookings to all important points and AROUND THE WORLD.

For full particulars as to Passage and Freight apply to

S. MORIMOTO, Agent,

KING'S BUILDING (Opposite Blake Pier).

THE EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

MAIL SERVICE

TO AUSTRALIA, via MANILA.

MAIL SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION)

STEAMERS	ARRIVE HONGKONG FROM AUSTRALIA.	LEAVE HONGKONG FOR AUSTRALIA.
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ST ALBANS...Sept. 20...Sept. 18th, at 11 a.m.

EMPIRE...Oct. 11...Oct. 31st, at 11 a.m.

EMPIRE...Nov. 1...Nov. 21st, at 11 a.m.

THE above Steamers are fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and are lighted throughout with Electricity. All State-Rooms have Electric Fans. A duly qualified Doctor and Stewards are carried. For further particulars, apply to—

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO Agents.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

HONGKONG-SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS.

HIGHEST-CLASS, fastest and most luxurious Steamers on the Coast, having splendid accommodations for First-Class Passengers. Electric Light. Excellent Cuisine.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCOW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 9 to 10 Days).

STEAMERS CAPTAIN

HAIYANG...Capt. A. E. Hodgins...TUESDAY, 9th Sept., at 11 a.m.

HAIYAN...Capt. J. B. Roach...FRIDAY, 12th Sept., at 11 a.m.

Steamers will arrive at, and depart from the Company's Wharf near Blake Pier.

For Freight and Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO.

General Managers.

FOR SWATOW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 3 Days).

HAIYUN...Capt. J. W. Evans...MONDAY, 8th Sept., at 1 p.m.

HAIYAN...Capt. J. B. Roach...TUESDAY, 11th Sept., at 1 p.m.

Steamers will arrive at, and depart from the Company's Wharf near Blake Pier.

For Freight and Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO.

General Managers.

SHIPPING

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

FOR: MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO. STEAMERS: TO SAIL.

KEBAO...TAMING...Sept. 9, at 4 p.m.

SWATOW, AMOY, NINGPO & SHANGHAI...RUKIAN...Sept. 10, at 10 a.m.

SHANGHAI...Luchow...Sept. 11, at Noon.

SHANGHAI...Kupow...Sept. 12, at 9 a.m.

WEIHAIWEI & TIENTSIN...Kupow...Sept. 13, at Noon.

SHANGHAI...Yingchow...Sept. 13, Midnight.

SHANGHAI...ANHUI...Sept. 13, at 4 p.m.

DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER—Twice Weekly.

S.S. 'LINTAN' and S.S. 'SANTU'.

MANILA LINE. Twin Screw Steamers 'Chishu', 'Taming' & 'Tea'.

Excellent Saloon accommodation available. Electric Fans fitted. Extra state-rooms on deck, aft on 'Taming' and 'Tea'.

SHANGHAI LINE. The Twin Steamers 'Anhui', 'Chenah', 'Lina', and the S.S. 'Luchow', having excellent accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans the Steamers and Dining Saloon, maintain a fast schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai leaving Hongkong for Shanghai direct every Thursday and Sunday, taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

N.B.—Passengers must embark before midnight on Saturday for the Sunday morning sailing. A Company's launch leaves Murray Pier at 10 o'clock every Saturday night.

These Steamers land passengers in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

REDUCED FARES: Single \$45 Return \$75.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

Telephone No. 38.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For: SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA. STEAMERS: TO SAIL.

* KUMSANG...TUESDAY, Sept. 9, at 2 p.m.

* SHANGHAI...HANGSANG...WEDNESDAY, Sept. 10, Daylight.

* TIENTSIN via WEIHAIWEI...WEDNESDAY, Sept. 10, at Noon.

* MANILA...LOONGSANG...SATURDAY, Sept. 13, at 2 p.m.

* SINGAPORE & SAMARANG...CHUNSIANG...FRIDAY, Sept. 12, at 2 p.m.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN. (Occupying 24 days).

Three steamers Kiang, Namung & Fookang leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Japan returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong. Time occupied 20 days. This service is supplemented by the Luchow, Kumsang, Lora, Yehing and Shung leaving Hongkong at regular intervals for Yokohama, Kobe & Moji and returning direct to Hongkong. Time occupied 18 days.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

A duly qualified Surgeon is also carried.

Steamers have superior accommodation for First-Class Passengers and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Yangtze-Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin, Daire, Weihaiwei & Tientsin.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kudat, Lahad Datin, Singapore, Java, Cebu, Jeddah and Lagan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers.

Telephone No. 215.

BRITISH-INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

NEW SERVICE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN

YOKOHAMA, KOBE, HONGKONG & RANGOON.

EASTWARD

The S.S. FULTALA, 4154 tons gross, Capt. Chidly, will be despatched for Yokohama, Kobe and Moji on the 26th September at 4 p.m., taking cargo and passengers at current rates.

For Freight & Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents.

Telephone No. 215.

THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

'SHIRE' LINE SERVICE—HOMEWARDS.

For: LONDON & ANTWERP. STEAMERS: Date of Departure.

LONDON & ANTWERP...RADNORSHIRE...12th October.

LONDON & ANTWERP...VESTAL A...18th October.

LONDON & ANTWERP...DEN OF RUTHVEN...26th October.

NEW TRANS-PACIFIC 'SHIRE' AND 'GLEN' JOINT SERVICE

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, TACOMA & PORTLAND.

DEN OF GLAMIS...23rd September.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, TACOMA & PORTLAND.

DEN OF AIRLIE...16th November.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, TACOMA & PORTLAND.

MOU MOUNSHIRE...14th December.

For freight and further particulars, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., AGENTS.

Telephone No. 215 Sub Ex. No. 2.

BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.

APCAR LINE.

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN

CALCUTTA, STRAITS, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI AND JAPAN PORTS.

EASTWARD.

S.S. JELUNGA, 5,206 tons, Captain Sullivan, will be despatched for KOBE and MOJI on 19th September.

S.S. APCAR, 4,447 tons, Capt. Walker, will be despatched for SHANGHAI, KOBE and MOJI on 23rd September.

WESTWARD

S.S. G. APCAR, 4,600 tons, Capt. J. E. Drake, will be despatched for SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA on 17th September.

S.S. DILWARA, 5,378 tons, Capt. Range, will be despatched as above on 22nd September.

These Steamers have excellent saloon accommodation for passengers and are fitted with modern conveniences and carry a fully qualified surgeon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID BARBOON & CO., LTD., AGENTS.

Telephone No. 215.

AMERICAN AND ORIENTAL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship PRINZ LUDWIG, having arrived, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon and West Point Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before noon to-day requesting it to be landed here

